

## Special Licensing System Alert

Due to the continued electrical supply situation in California, occasional, brief electrical blackouts may occur during this season of high-energy usage.

This notice is to remind you that medically fragile or technology dependent clients in our facilities may be seriously affected by the electrical blackouts. These clients depend on electrically operated devices to provide breathing support, feeding or physical condition monitoring. Some examples of these devices would be electrical breathing machines and ventilators, external heart monitors, apnea monitors and electrically operated feeding machines.

In an effort to ensure that our facilities are prepared in the event of an energy blackout, we are asking District Office staff to contact facilities that serve medically fragile clients. We are asking that you do your part during the winter season in conserving energy by reducing your use of electricity whenever possible.

We want to remind you that during this season the use of electrical equipment is at a peak and that facilities that care for medically fragile clients need to be fully prepared in the event of an energy blackout.

The following review items may assist your preparations for a potential energy blackout:

1. Do you have any medically fragile or technology- dependent clients in your facility?

Yes\_\_\_\_\_

No\_\_\_\_\_

If the answer is Yes, proceed to the following statements.

2. We would like to remind you that your emergency plan should be current and recently tested. Most importantly, if you have any medical devices requiring electrical power, you should confirm the availability of a working back-up power supply for the medical devices, such as fresh batteries or a generator.
3. You should also verify how many hours of back-up power supply are available to your system.
4. In many communities, you may also register with your local Power Company and local emergency agencies such as police, fire and hospitals to ensure assistance is available when needed. We encourage you to investigate this option.
5. Finally if you have any special transportation needs for your medically fragile/technology dependent client(s) you should ensure that these transportation needs have been addressed in your emergency plan in case public transportation and/or ambulance services are unavailable for any reason.
6. If you have any questions about your preparedness, please contact your Regional Center or Licensing District Office for further assistance.

Thank you.